

IN THE SPECIFICATION

[0009] In accordance with another embodiment of the present invention, a steam generator is provided. The steam generator includes a housing, a steam chamber located within the housing, a heating element located within the steam chamber, a water inlet configured to allow water to enter the steam chamber, a steam outlet configured to outlet steam from the steam chamber and housing. The steam generator also includes a vessel located external to the steam chamber having an interior reservoir in fluid communication with the steam chamber such that a liquid level in the reservoir and a liquid level in the steam chamber ~~with~~ will seek to achieve substantially the same level, and a valve associated with the vessel configured to regulate a liquid flow from an external source into the reservoir to achieve a desired liquid level in the reservoir.

[0045] An O-ring 94, which may be made from silicone, provides a seal between the end plate 44 and the flange 66, when the immersion heater 40 is installed within the evaporator tube 16.